

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4. (cancelled)

5.(currently amended): A channel setting method in a mobile communication system in which a first channel of fixed bandwidth, and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements, are set up between a mobile station and a plurality of base stations performing radio communications with said mobile station, and between said plurality of base stations and a base station controller which communicates with said plurality of base stations and controls said base stations, said channel setting method being a method for setting said second channel during hand-off where said mobile station is communicating with said plurality of base stations by means of said first channel, and comprising the steps of:

in said base station controller, sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said plurality of base stations communicating by means of said first channel;

in said plurality of base stations, upon receiving said request, returning a response of an allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth, to said base station controller; and

in said base station controller, upon receiving said responses, setting said second channel [[channels]] between said mobile station and said plurality of base stations, and between said plurality of base stations and said base station controller, according to the smallest bandwidth of said plurality of allocatable bandwidths.

6.(original): A channel setting method in a mobile communication system in which a first channel of fixed bandwidth, and a second channel of variable bandwidth established

according to requirements, are set up between a mobile station and a first and a second base station performing radio communications with said mobile station, and between said first and second base stations and a base station controller which communicates with said base stations and controls said base stations, said channel setting method being a method for setting said second channel between said mobile station and said second base station at the start of handoff where said mobile station starts to communicate simultaneously with said second base station whilst also communicating with said first base station by means of said first and second channel, and comprising the steps of:

in said base station controller, sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said second base station;

in said second base station, upon receiving said request, returning a response of an allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth, to said base station controller; and

in said base station controller, upon receiving said response from said second base station,

comparing said allocatable bandwidth with the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station; and

in a case where the former bandwidth is lower than the latter bandwidth, changing the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station to the former bandwidth, and also establishing said second channel between said mobile station and said second base station, and between said second base station and said base station controller, in accordance with said former bandwidth.

7.(original): The channel setting method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of:

in said base station controller, setting said second channel between said mobile station and said second base station and between said second base station and said base station controller, according to the bandwidth of the second channel established with said first base station, in a case where said allocatable bandwidth is greater than the bandwidth of the second channel established with said first base station.

Claims 8 - 9. (cancelled):

10.(currently amended): A channel setting method in a mobile communication system in which a first channel of fixed bandwidth, and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements, are set up between a mobile station and a plurality of base stations performing radio communications with said mobile station, and between said plurality of base stations and a base station controller which communicates with said plurality of base stations and controls said base stations, said channel setting method being a method for setting said second channel during hand-off where said mobile station is communicating with said plurality of base stations by means of said first channel, being performed under control of said base station controller, and comprising the steps of:

sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said plurality of base stations communicating by means of said first channel;

receiving a response of an allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth, as sent by said plurality of base stations; and

setting said second channel [[channels]] between said mobile station and said plurality of base stations, and between said plurality of base stations and said base station controller, according to the smallest bandwidth of said received plurality of allocatable bandwidths.

11.(original): A channel setting method in a mobile communication system in which a first channel of fixed bandwidth, and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements, are set up between a mobile station and a first and a second base station performing radio communications with said mobile station, and between said first and second base stations and a base station controller which communicates with said base stations and controls said base stations, said channel setting method being a method for setting said second channel between said mobile station and said second base station at the start of handoff where said mobile station starts to communicate simultaneously with said second base station whilst also communicating with said first base station by means of said first and second channel, being performed under control of said base station controller, and comprising the steps of:

sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said second base station;

receiving a response of an allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth, as sent by said second base station; and

comparing said allocatable bandwidth with the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station, and, if the former bandwidth is lower than the latter bandwidth, changing the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station to the former bandwidth, and also establishing said second channel between said mobile station and

said second base station and between said second base station and said base station controller, in accordance with said former bandwidth.

Claim 12. (cancelled):

13.(currently amended): A mobile communication system comprising a mobile station, a plurality of base stations performing radio communications with said mobile station, and a base station controller communicating with said plurality of base stations and controlling said plurality of base stations, in which a first channel of fixed bandwidth, and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements, are set up between a mobile station and said plurality of base stations, and between said plurality of base stations and said base station controller,

wherein said base station controller comprises:

a transmitting portion for sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said plurality of base stations communicating by means of said first channel, when it is necessary to establish said second channel during hand-off where said mobile station is communicating with said plurality of base stations by means of said first channel,

a first receiving portion for receiving a response of an allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth, as transmitted by said base stations in response to the transmission from said transmitting portion; and

a setting portion for setting said second channel [[channels]] between said mobile station and said plurality of base stations, and between said plurality of base stations and said

base station controller, according to the smallest bandwidth of said plurality of allocatable bandwidths received via said first receiving portion; and

said plurality of base stations comprise, respectively:

a second receiving portion for receiving said request; and

a response portion for returning said response of said allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than the requested bandwidth received via said second receiving section, to said base station controller.

14.(original): A mobile communication system comprising a mobile station, a first and second base stations performing radio communications with said mobile station, and a base station controller communicating with said first and second base stations and controlling said base stations, wherein a first channel of fixed bandwidth, and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements, are set up between said mobile station and said first and second base station, and between said first and second base stations and said base station controller,

wherein said base station controller comprises:

a transmitting portion for sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said second base station, at the start of handoff where said mobile station starts to communicate simultaneously with said second base station whilst also communicating with said first base station by means of said first and second channels;

a first receiving portion for receiving a response of an allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth, from the second base station, in response to the

a changing portion for comparing the allocatable bandwidth received by said first receiving portion with the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station, and, if the former bandwidth is lower than the latter bandwidth, changing the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station to the former bandwidth; and

a setting portion for setting said second channel between said mobile station and said second base station, and between said second base station and said base station controller, in accordance with said former bandwidth; and

said second base station comprises:

a second receiving portion for receiving said request sent by said transmitting portion of said base station controller; and

a response portion for returning said response of said allocatable bandwidth equal to or lower than said requested bandwidth as received via said second receiving portion, to said base station controller.

Claim 15.(cancelled)

16.(currently amended): A base station controller in a mobile communication system comprising a mobile station, a plurality of base stations performing radio communications with said mobile station, and said base station controller communicating with said plurality of base stations and controlling said base stations, a first channel of fixed bandwidth and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements being set up between said mobile station and said plurality of base stations, and between said base stations and said base station controller in said mobile communication system, comprising:

a transmitting portion for sending a response for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said plurality of base stations communicating by means of said first channel, when it is necessary to establish said second channel during hand-off where said mobile station is communicating with said plurality of base stations by means of said first channel;

a first receiving portion for receiving a response of an allocatable bandwidth, as transmitted by said base stations in response to the transmission from said transmitting portion; and

a setting portion for setting said second channel [[channels]] between said mobile station and said plurality of base stations, and between said plurality of base stations and said base station controller, according to the smallest bandwidth of said plurality of allocatable bandwidths received via said first receiving portion.

17.(original): A base station controller in a mobile communication system comprising a mobile station, a first and a second base station performing radio communications with said mobile station, and said base station controller communicating with said first and second base stations and controlling said base stations, a first channel of fixed bandwidth and a second channel of variable bandwidth established according to requirements being set up between said mobile station and said first and second base stations, and between said first and second base stations and said base station controller, comprising:

a transmitting portion for sending a request for a bandwidth required for said second channel to said second base station, at the start of handoff where said mobile station starts to communicate simultaneously with said second base station whilst also communicating with said first base station by means of said first and second channels;

a first receiving portion for receiving a response of an allocatable bandwidth, as sent from the second base station in response to the transmission from said transmitting portion; a changing portion for comparing the allocatable bandwidth received via said first receiving portion with the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station, and, if the former bandwidth is lower than the latter bandwidth, changing the bandwidth of the second channel established to said first base station to the former bandwidth; and a setting portion for setting said second channel between said mobile station and said second base station, and between said second base station and said base station controller, in accordance with said former bandwidth.

Claim 18.(cancelled)